

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	25X1
TOPIC	New Amphibious Vehicles for Engineer Units of GSFG		
EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED		25X1
DATE OF CONTENT			
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	24 January 1955 25X1
REFERENCES			
PAGES	3	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	1 - one sketch on ditto
REMARKS	This is UNEVALUATED Information		

25X1

1. On 19/20 April 1954, elements of the H/1 Engr Regt of GSFG with amphibious vehicles, transferred in two shipments from Bernburg to Hege Lake near Sperenberg. Subsequently, special training with amphibious vehicles was conducted there. Other engineer units apparently also participated in the training.
2. On 15/16 June, the amphibious unit which bivouacked on Hege Lake received 30 to 40 new amphibious vehicles from the USSR. The vehicles were thoroughly camouflaged during the transfer.
3. The arrival of these vehicles was confirmed by other information, according to which amphibious vehicles of a new type have continually been observed on Hege Lake after that date. The vehicles which were provided with tracks were believed to be amphibious tanks.
4. After several months of training with the new equipment, the unit with 36 amphibious vehicles was transferred from Sperenberg to Gussen north-east of Burg for the full maneuvers of the Third Shock Army on 11 September. An additional 15 amphibious vehicles, which were well camouflaged, arrived there from the USSR on 15 September.
5. Upon completion of the maneuver, the unit returned with 86 amphibious vehicles of the new type from Gussen to Sperenberg on Hege Lake on 5/6 October.
6. Observations in November and December indicated that the unit was permanently quartered in the area of the barracks installation on Schunke Lake (3441) north of Hege Lake during the winter months. The amphibious vehicles were stored in newly constructed sheds. Since then, the troops wore ~~black~~ red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. It is undetermined that the unit which was undoubtedly activated from soldiers of the H/1 Engr Regt Bernburg still belongs to this unit.

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7. On 25 November, 8 track-laying amphibious vehicles which, according to description and sketch, were of the same type as those observed in Spereberg, were detained in Bergen. Other observations tended to indicate that similar amphibious vehicles were also stationed in Magdaburg.

8. The vehicles are described as follows:

hull: open top, bow-shaped front, slanting rear and two three-blade propelling screws; with a strong protective grid hinged below the screws.

chassis: ... caterpillar, about 70 cm wide, 7 bogie wheels, 3 to 7 track supporting rollers, drive wheel in the rear (?)

length : 6 to 8 meters.

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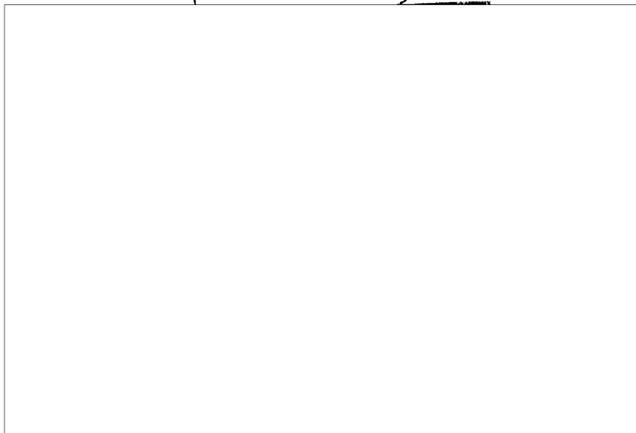
The vehicles are apparently not armored.



The first detailed report and sketch was forwarded in September 1954 under

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Annex to [redacted] 25X1

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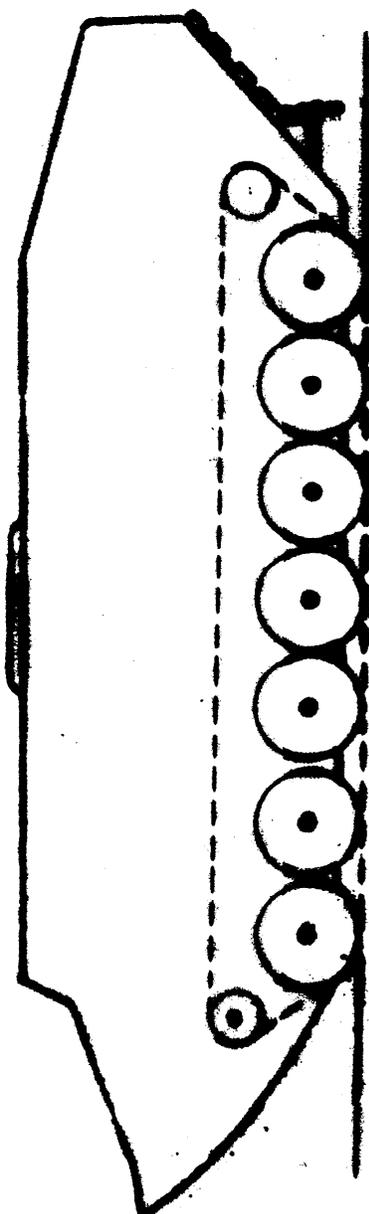
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Annex to [redacted]

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1. On 19/20 April 1954, elements of the U/1 Engr Regt of GSFG with amphibious vehicles, transferred in two shipments from Bernburg to Hege Lake near Sperenberg. Subsequently, special training with amphibious vehicles was conducted there. Other engineer units apparently also participated in the training.
2. On 15/16 June, the amphibious unit which bivouacked on Hege Lake received 30 to 40 new amphibious vehicles from the USSR. The vehicles were thoroughly camouflaged during the transfer.
3. The arrival of these vehicles was confirmed by other information, according to which amphibious vehicles of a new type have continually been observed on Hege Lake after that date. The vehicles which were provided with tracks were believed to be amphibious tanks.
4. After several months of training with the new equipment, the unit with 36 amphibious vehicles was transferred from Sperenberg to Guesen north-east of Burg for the fall maneuvers of the Third Shock Army on 11 September. An additional 13 amphibious vehicles, which were well camouflaged, arrived there from the USSR on 15 September.
5. Upon completion of the maneuver, the unit returned with 86 amphibious vehicles of the new type from Guesen to Sperenberg on Hege Lake on 5/6 October.
6. Observations in November and December indicated that the unit was permanently quartered in the area of the barracks installation on Schumke Lake (3441) north of Hege Lake during the winter months. The amphibious vehicles were stored in newly constructed sheds. Since then, the troops wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. It is undetermined that the unit which was undoubtedly activated from soldiers of the U/1 Engr Regt Bernburg still belongs to this unit.

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- 2 -

7. On 25 November, 8 track-laying amphibious vehicles which, according to description and sketch, were of the same type as those observed in Sperenberg, were detained in Eberswalde. Other observations tended to indicate that similar amphibious vehicles were also stationed in Magdeburg.

8. The vehicles are described as follows:

hull: open top, bow-shaped front, slanting rear and two three-blade propelling screws; with a strong protective grid hinged below the screws.

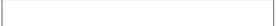
chassis: caterpillar tracks, about 70 cm wide, 7 bogie wheels, 3 to 7 track-supporting rollers, drive wheel in the rear (?)

length : 6 to 8 meters.

The vehicles are apparently not armored. 

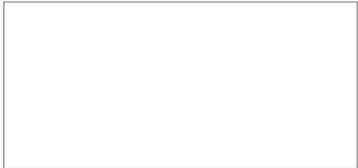


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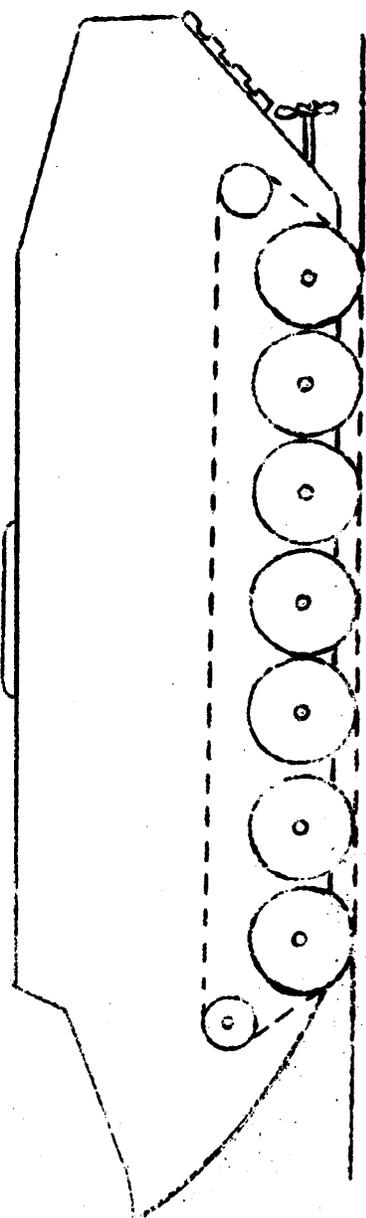
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Annex to



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